Development of Postal Services

851. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the department of communications do not have any research and development programme for the development of technology in the field of post;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) to (c) The Department of Posts has a Technology Division which interacts and co-ordinates with institutes of excellences like IITs and specialised departments like Department of Electronics and others for the purpose of evolving suitable technology for postal services. The programmes are formalised in the form of plan projects under the over all Five Year Plans.

Environment Commission

852. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have proposed to establish Environment Commission for the speedy disposal of matters related to the Environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Boycott of Examinations

853. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the teachers of Delhi University had recently boycotted the examinations;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against them; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken in the light of this agitation to ensure the smooth functioning of educational institutions?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) The Delhi University Teachers Association (DUTA), some time back, had given a call for boycott of the examinations of the University of Delhi to press their demand regarding revision of pay scales of university and college teachers. The Government have already announced certain pay-structure against which DUTA and other teachers' associations have filed their representations. The agitation of the university teachers on the pay-revision issue has also become a subject matter of litigation before the Delhi High Court. While the Court proceedings are going on, the Government has been having dialogues with all concerned agencies to find an acceptable solution.

Telephone Exchanges

854. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the data on which the construction work of new telephone exchange was taken up in Kawardha Tensil of Rajnandgaon district and the time by which it is likely to be completed;

(b) the details of its capacity alongwith its cost of installation;

(c) the extent to which it can be expanded in future;

(d) whether there is any scheme to instal electronic telephone exchanges in Dogargarh and Dongargaon Tehsils of this district;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any letter/memorandum has been received in the department during April, 1998 regarding faulty telephone system of tribal development block, Mohla; and

(g) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) 1. The date of commencement construction of building 15-12-95.

2. Date of completion of building 06-03-98. (6.9.98)

3. Date of commissioning of Telephone exchange 29-03-98.

(b) The capacity of exchange 1000 lines.

Cost of installisation

(i) Building 29.6 lakhs.

(ii) Telephone exchange 219.2 lakhs.

(c) Up to 1400 lines.

(d) Electronic exchanges are already installed at Dogargarh and Dongargaon Tehsils.

(e) Details of working exchanges are as under :-

S.No.	Tehsil	Capacity	DEL	W/L
1.	Dogargarh	680	649	36
2.	Dongargaon	184	147	0

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) As indicated in the attached Statement.